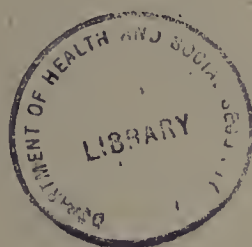


I
WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1968



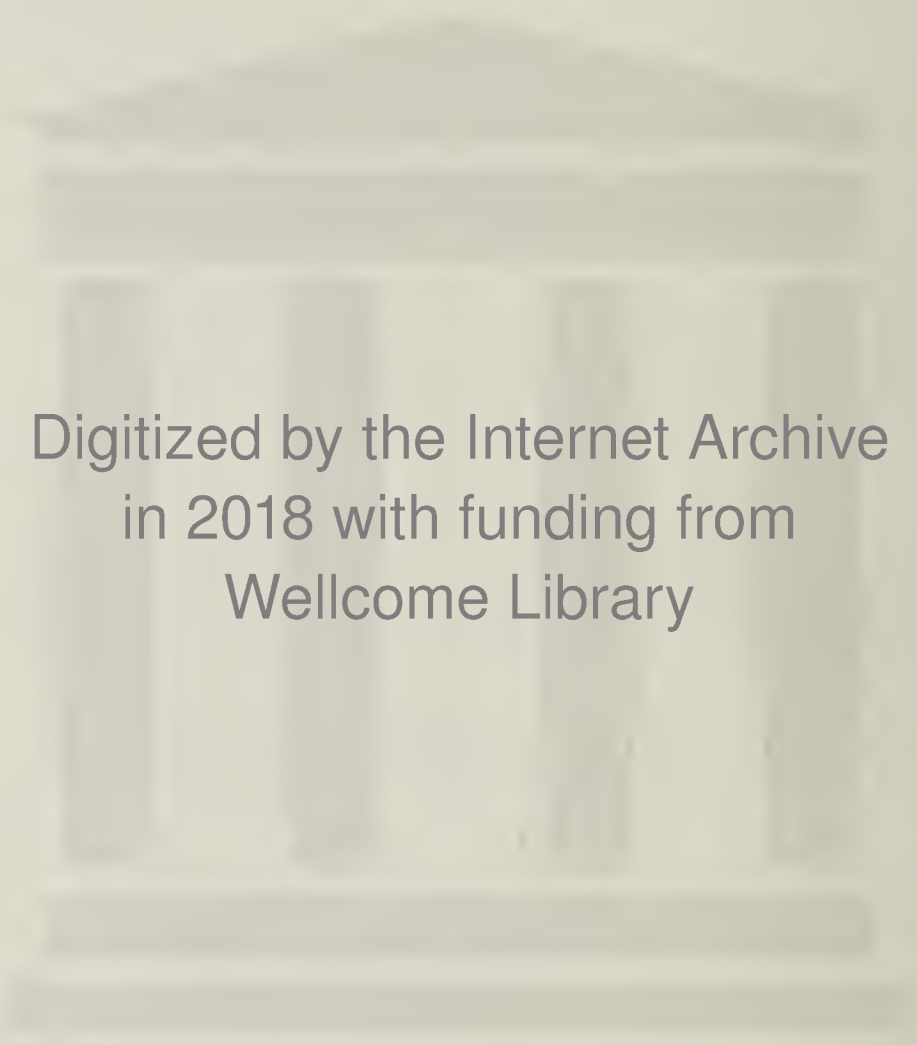
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Medical Officer of Health

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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Whickham,

Telephone :
Whickham 887141

Newcastle upon Tyne.
July, 1969

To the Chairman and Members of the
Whickham Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1968.

The year shows a natural population increase of 222, whilst the estimated population for the District is 28,220, an increase of 330 over the figure for 1967.

There has been a minimal decrease in the number of births and, correspondingly, in the birth rate relative to last year, this remaining higher than the rates for Durham County and for England and Wales, which latter has fallen slightly. The number of deaths has risen slightly with a corresponding increase in the death rate for the District, which is also reflected in the rates for the County and the Country as a whole. Once again no deaths arose from pregnancy or other maternal causes.

Cardio-vascular disease accounted for 155 out of a total of 284 deaths. Malignant diseases accounted for a further 60 deaths compared with 59 in 1967.

There was a rise in the total number of notified infectious diseases, 603 cases being recorded compared with 269 in 1967, accounted for largely by an outbreak of dysentery and the usual biennial increase in the incidence of measles. With the introduction of immunisation against measles, referred to elsewhere in this Report, it is anticipated that the measles figures in future years will be very considerably less. No deaths occurred from tuberculosis, 5 new cases were notified and 10 names were removed from the Tuberculosis Register as recovered cases. The total number of cases on the Register at the end of the year was 117 as compared with 128 at the end of 1967. Tables 'A' to 'E' on pages 28 to 30 give fuller details. It is of interest to record that no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, smallpox, typhoid or paratyphoid have occurred since 1955 or before.

As detailed in Section III of this Report, immunisation programmes continued to be pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis and, newly introduced, immunisation against measles. The same Section contains details of the operations in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and the Mobile X-ray Unit.

Health Education has been continued through the medium of Health Visitors and other nursing personnel, and by the distribution by the Health Department of posters and pamphlets, particularly in relation to the supply of posters to food premises and to food handlers, who are now much more conscious of their responsibilities. The standard of food premises has been shown, by inspections, to be satisfactory and no particular problems arose during the year. Some details of County Health Education work are given in the appropriate section of the Report.

The good work of the County Council in the provision of residential accommodation under the National Assistance Act continued, the 3 hostels in the No. 1 Health Area being used to capacity.

Once again, I would record, with appreciation, the enthusiastic and practical support this Council has given to all welfare activities; also the untiring and unselfish efforts of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and other voluntary bodies. The 3 industrial canteens, which supplied the meals until the end of September, deserve the thanks of the community. The purpose bought premises was opened as a central kitchen at the beginning of October and, since then, the number of meals supplied has increased to 265 per week.

The Old People's Welfare Committee remained active as ever and some details of the work carried out by its voluntary members are shown on page 21. It is interesting to note that the Wickham Group of the British Red Cross Society now run a visiting service for the old and lonely people. The Housing and Welfare Officer has continued his untiring application to social and other problems of the residents of the District and has carried out his duties most courteously and efficiently.

Family Case Conferences and Meetings of the Local Co-ordinating Committees have continued, the results of which are set out on pages 23 and 21.

The purity of water supplies continued to receive careful supervision, regular sampling being carried out by the Water Undertakings and the Health Department. The results of bacteriological tests on water samples showed the water supplies to be pure and wholesome.

Efforts to improve the purity of the atmosphere continued. The Wickham Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Smoke Control Orders were confirmed by the Minister and came into operation on 1st November; and the No. 8 Order was submitted to the Minister for confirmation.

A regular weekly collection of household and trade refuse was maintained and the paper sack system of refuse collection was extended to a total of 1,917 houses.

Due to the pressure of other work in the Department, it was not found to be possible to devote as much time as hoped to the inspection of premises registered in accordance with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963, most visits made being purely to ascertain that defects previously discovered had been remedied.

Thanks are due to the members of the Health Committee and the Council for the co-operation and understanding which have made the Health Department work more pleasant and rewarding and is reflected in the good progress in sanitary and health measures which has continued.

I would thank colleagues in other Departments of the Council for their help and co-operation whenever needed. Health Department staff have continued a high standard of work and I would express my appreciation to all the Officers and other employees of the Department for the excellent work carried out. The relations of all staff in this Department have been most cordial.

Mr. W. H. Scott, who replaced Mr. Atkinson as Pupil Public Health Inspector, has settled down into his post and is proving a most satisfactory member of my staff.

Collaboration from the County Medical Officer and his staff has never been lacking when required and I would express my thanks to them.

The Area Health Clerk, Mrs. Martin, has carried out her duties to the community in her usual efficient manner, her relationship with the public in connection with Personal Health Services having been excellent. I am indebted to her for the collection and compilation of the detailed material in this Report relating to such Services, and her assistance has been much appreciated.

I would like to compliment all voluntary services in the District for their continued enthusiasm in carrying out welfare work so unstintingly and efficiently. The willingness of all other organisations outside of Local Government, in collaborating as in the past, in supplying me with information required, should not pass unmentioned, nor should the activities of the Whickham Round Table and others for financial and other assistance to the Old People's Welfare Committee.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

There have been no alterations to the Boundaries of the Urban District. The area is bounded to the North by the River Tyne, to the West by the River Derwent, to the East by the County Borough of Gateshead and the Rural District of Chester-le-Street, and to the South by the Urban District of Stanley.

The District is divided into five Wards viz. :—

Dunston
Marley Hill
Swalwell
Whickham East
Whickham West

1. **DUNSTON** — has the largest population and is both residential and industrial. The main industries are flour mills, paint works, pre-cast concrete works, saw mills and an electricity generating station.

2. **MARLEY HILL** — is very scattered and rural, coal mining being the only industry. Due to closures, Marley Hill is now the only working colliery in the Ward.

3. **SWALWELL** — has as its chief industries engineering, foundry works, brick making and metal working. A screening plant used in connection with opencast coal workings is situated in the northerly part of the Ward.

4. **WHICKHAM** — Whickham Ward is divided into two separate wards viz. :— West and East. Both are semi-rural in character and are essentially residential. The population finds its employment outside the Wards.

II.

STATISTICS

General.

Acreage — 6,213.

Number of inhabited houses :

Council 2,938 Other 6,841 Total 9,779

Number of Other Premises : 1,284.

Rateable Value : £852,447.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £3,480.

Vital.

Population — 1931 — 20,750

1951 — 23,116

1968 — 28,220

Density of persons per house : 2.88.

Births : Comparability Factor : 0.97.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|----------|
| Live Births : | Male | Female | Total |
| Number | 254 | 252 | 506 |
| Rate (per 1,000 population) : | Crude | C.F. | Adjusted |
| Whickham Urban District | 17.93 | | 17.39 |
| Durham County | 16.16 | | 15.99 |
| England and Wales | 16.91 | | — |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|--------|--------|
| Illegitimate Live Births : | Male | Female | Total |
| Number | 13 | 12 | 25 |
| Percentage of total live births : | | | 4.94 % |

| | | | |
|--|-------|--------|-------|
| Still Births : | Male | Female | Total |
| Number | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births) : | 5.894 | | |
| Total Live and Still Births : | | | 509 |

Deaths : Comparability Factor : 1.20.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|----------|
| | Male | Female | Total |
| Number | 172 | 112 | 284 |
| Rate (per 1,000 population) : | Crude | C.F. | Adjusted |
| Whickham Urban District | 10.06 | | 12.08 |
| Durham County | 11.55 | | 13.51 |
| England and Wales | 11.87 | | — |

The commonest causes of death during 1968 were :

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| 1. Ischaemic Heart Disease | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 85 |
| 2. Other Forms of Heart Disease | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 30 |
| 3. Cerebrovascular Disease | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 30 |
| 4. Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 29 (+3) |
| 5. Respiratory Disease | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 29 |
| 6. Malignant Neoplasms at Defined Sites | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 28 |
| 7. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 10 |

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year)

| Number | Male 7 | Female 5 | Total 12 |
|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Rate (total infant deaths per 1,000 live births) | | | |
| Whickham Urban District | | | 23·72 |
| Durham County | | | 19·99 |
| England and Wales | | | 18·25 |
| Legitimate infant deaths (per 1,000 legitimate live births) | | | 24·95 |
| Illegitimate infant deaths (per 1,000 illegitimate live births) | | | Nil |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) | | | 15·81 |
| Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) | | | 13·83 |
| Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) | | | 19·65 |

Causes of Infant Deaths :

| | | |
|---|------|---|
| Respiratory Distress Syndrome with Prematurity | .... | 4 |
| Pneumonia | .... | 1 |
| Acute Respiratory Infection | .... | 1 |
| Prematurity | .... | 1 |
| Congenital Heart Disease | .... | 1 |
| Congestive Heart Failure | .... | 1 |
| Anencephaly | .... | 1 |
| Cerebral Degeneration associated with Hypoglycaemia | .... | 1 |
| Necrotising Entero-colitis | .... | 1 |

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

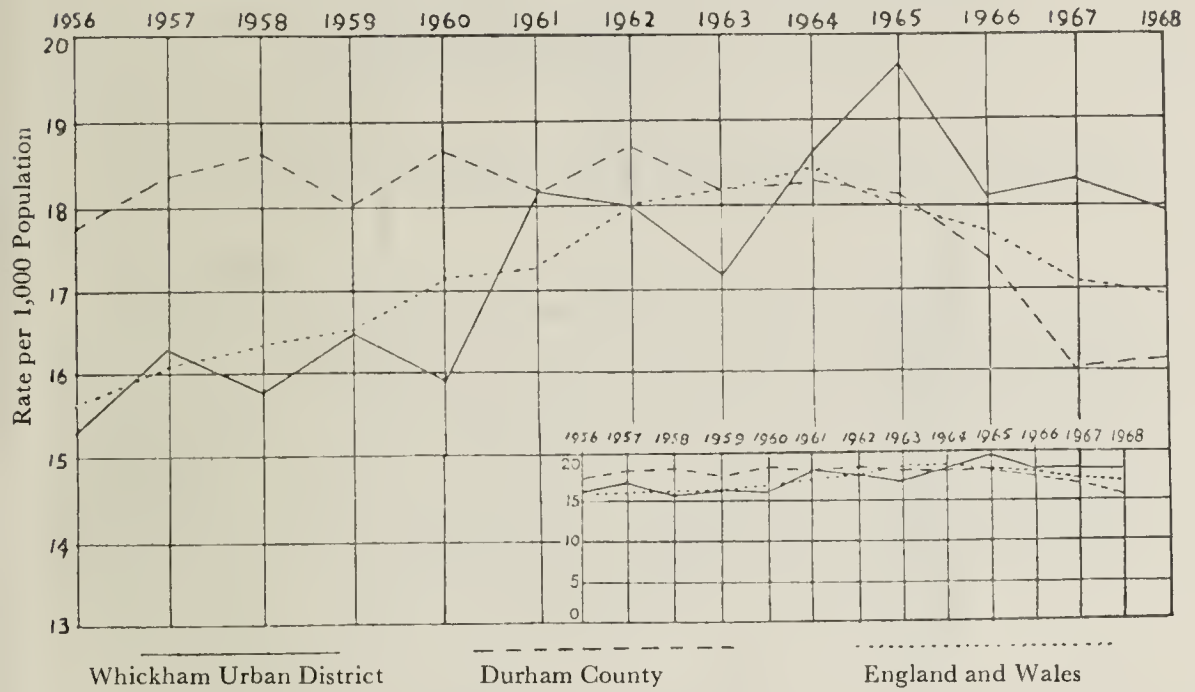
| | | |
|--|------|------|
| Number of deaths | .... | Nil |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births | .... | 0·00 |

The natural population increase for the year, i.e. the excess of births over deaths, was 222.

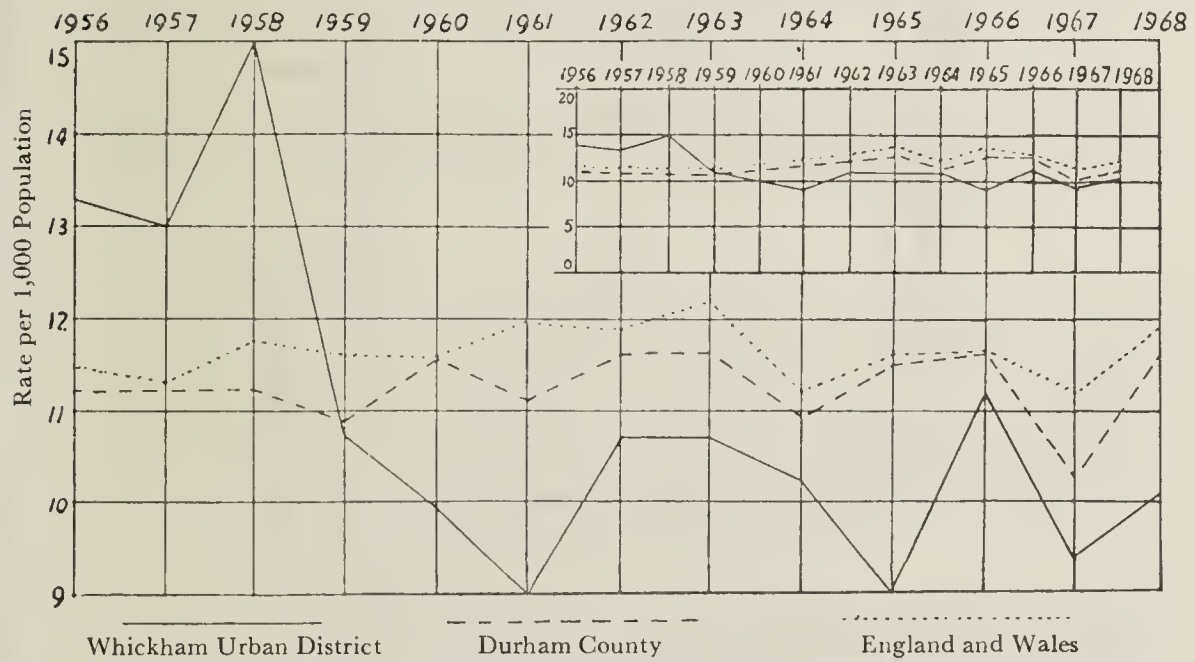
THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968

| | | Males | Females | Total |
|-------------|---|-------|---------|-------|
| B. 4 | Enteritis and Diarrhoeas | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.19 (1) | Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| B.19 (2) | Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| B.19 (3) | Malignant Neoplasm—Breast | — | 3 | 3 |
| B.19 (4) | Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus | — | 2 | 2 |
| B.19 (5) | Leukaemia and Aleukaemia | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B.19 (6) | Other Malignant Neoplasms etc. | 19 | 10 | 29 |
| B.20 | Neoplasms Benign and of Nature Unspecified | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B.21 | Diabetes Mellitus | — | 1 | 1 |
| B.46 (1) | Other Endocrine Diseases etc. | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.46 (3) | Mental Disorders | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.46 (4) | Other Diseases of Nervous Systems, etc. | 3 | — | 3 |
| B.26 | Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.27 | Hypertensive Disease | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| B.28 | Ischaemic Heart Disease | 52 | 33 | 85 |
| B.29 | Other Forms of Heart Disease | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| B.30 | Cerebrovascular Disease | 17 | 13 | 30 |
| B.46 (5) | Other Diseases of Circulatory System | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| B.31 | Influenza | — | 4 | 4 |
| B.32 | Pneumonia | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| B.33 (1) | Bronchitis and Emphysema | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| B.33 (2) | Asthma | — | 1 | 1 |
| B.46 (6) | Other Diseases of Respiratory System | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B.34 | Peptic Ulcer | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.36 | Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia | — | 1 | 1 |
| B.37 | Cirrhosis of Liver | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.46 (7) | Other Diseases of Digestive System | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| B.38 | Nephritis and Nephrosis | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B.46 (8) | Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System | 2 | — | 2 |
| B.46 (10) | Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System | 1 | — | 1 |
| B.42 | Congenital Anomalies | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B.43 | Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Anoxia, etc.... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| B.44 | Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality | 2 | — | 2 |
| BE.47 | Motor Vehicle Accidents | 3 | — | 3 |
| BE.48 | All Other Accidents | 1 | — | 1 |
| BE.49 | Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries | 3 | — | 3 |
| BE.50 | All Other External Causes | 3 | — | 3 |
| Totals | | 172 | 112 | 284 |

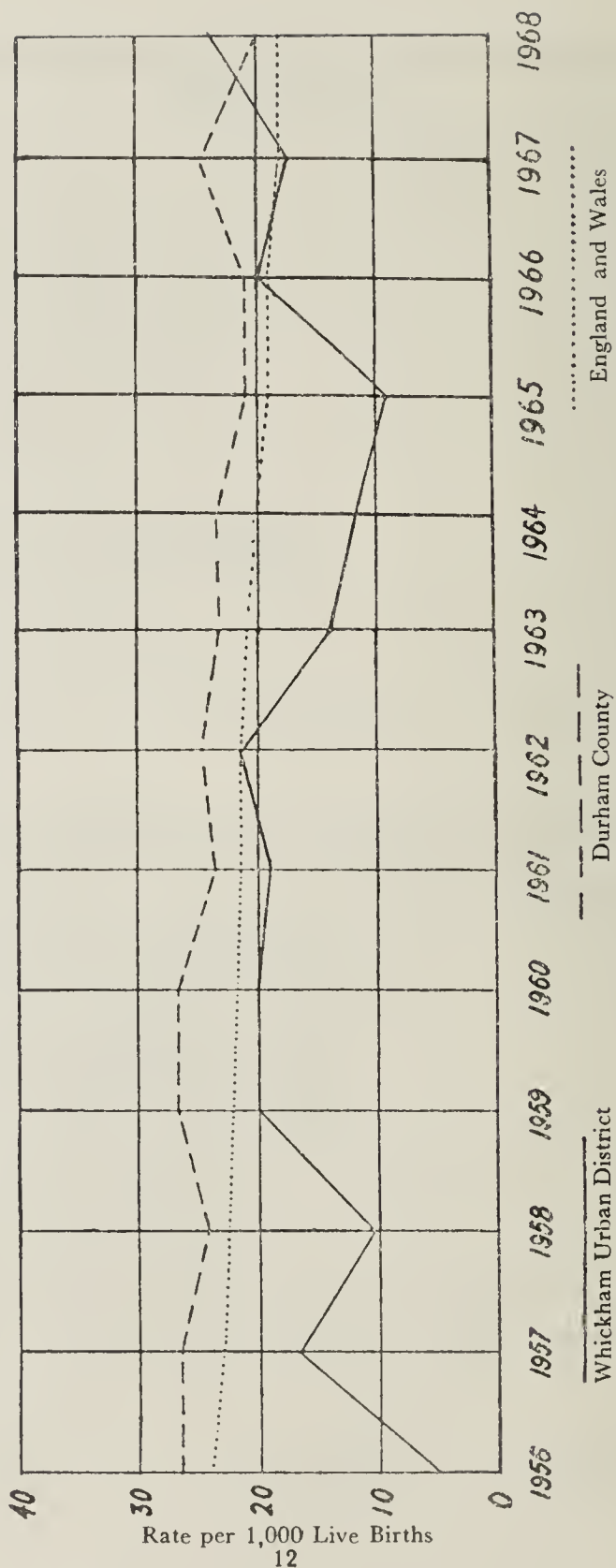
Graph comparing Crude Birth Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1956.



Graph comparing Crude Death Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1956.



Graph comparing Infant Mortality Rates for WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, yearly since 1956



III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provision

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board through the North-West Durham and Gateshead Hospital Management Committees.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle, together with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. In-patient treatment can be given at the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead, and in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital. The Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 300 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category. It also provides, under the National Assistance Act, Part III Accommodation for patients.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

(i) Midwifery.

The majority of midwifery cases which require hospital treatment are sent to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, or the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge, and for out-patient treatment to the Gateshead Children's Hospital, in-patient treatment being available at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead.

(ii) Gynaecology.

Cases of this nature requiring hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, or the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge, or to the Bensham General Hospital and the Dunston Hill Hospital.

(c) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Tuberculosis.

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculous patients in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Normans Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. There is a Chest Clinic attached to the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital where a Chest Physician attends and holds regular clinical sessions. Early diagnosis of such sufferers, and their admission to hospital promptly thereafter, has now been achieved, resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

(ii) Venereal Diseases.

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, where every effort is made to maintain

secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General practitioners are able to refer patients to the Clinic for necessary investigation and treatment.

(iii) Smallpox.

Provision is made at Langley Park Isolation Hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of smallpox which, should such occur in the District, would be admitted thereto promptly.

(iv) Other Infectious Diseases.

Cases of other infectious diseases requiring isolation are treated at the Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gateshead. Children can also be admitted to the Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

(d) Mental Health.

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Cases of acute or severe mental illness are normally admitted to St. Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(e) Convalescent Home.

The establishment, situate in Ryton Urban District and formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not admit patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 98 beds, 53 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) Laboratory Services.

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, Newcastle General Hospital. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of the Local Authorities, and investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) Blood Transfusion Service.

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary services for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1968, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, and the number of donations which were received on those dates.

| Name of Panel | Sessions Centre | Dates of Sessions | Strength of Panel | Attendance |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Dunston and District | St. Nicholas' Parish Church Hall | 20th February | 184 | 121 |
| | | 6th August | 184 | 85 |
| Swalwell and District | Presbyterian Church and Vestry | 13th February | 81 | 58 |
| | | 6th August | 81 | 42 |
| Whickham and District | Community Association Hall | 5th March | 252 | 75 |
| | | 23rd April | 252 | 109 |
| | | 27th August | 252 | 97 |
| | | 24th December | 252 | 71 |

(4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. A Mobile Unit visits Districts at times throughout the year and holds public sessions at industrial establishments. The statistics for this District are given below.

| Year | Number X-rayed | Number referred to Chest Clinic |
|--------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1968 | | |
| Public | 783 | 20 |

No industrial establishments were visited during 1968.

It is expected that the Mass Radiography Unit will spend a week during 1969 in No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) holding public sessions. It is possible that industrial establishments will also be visited.

Local Authority Provision

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council. It is responsible for the following :—

Personal Health Services.

- (a) Health Centres
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons
- (i) Home Help Service
- (j) Mental Health
- (k) Other Community Care Services
- (l) Health Education

Committees.

- (a) Central Co-ordinating Committee
- (b) Local Co-ordinating Committees

Personal Health Services.

- (a) Health Centres.

There are, as yet, no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics, where mothers and children may attend for the treatment of minor ailments of school children, for dental and for sunray treatment, and for maternity and child welfare services, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of the Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District. Welfare

foods are also distributed at these Centres. Sessions are held at centres in the District, at which treatment is provided and welfare foods are supplied, as listed below.

| | Address of Centre | | Sessions |
|------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Dunston. | Hawthorne Lodge, Ellison Road | Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic Distribution of Welfare Foods | Monday afternoons alternate Monday mornings & alternate Friday afternoons |
| Sunniside. | Methodist Schoolroom, | Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic Distribution of Welfare Foods | Alternate Tuesday mornings |
| Swalwell. | Village Hall | Distribution of Welfare Foods | Wednesday afternoons 2—4 p.m |
| Whickham. | Community Centre, Front Street | Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic Distribution of Welfare Foods | Tuesday afternoons & alternate Tuesday mornings Tuesday afternoons |

Assistant Medical Officers attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are open from 9-30 a.m.—12 noon and from 1-30—4 p.m.; and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.

(c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of any doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner Service organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at Local Health Authority Clinics. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the District Midwives are given below.

| Ward | Name | Address | Tel. No. |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Dunston | Mrs. E. Pearson | 9, Northfield Close, Clavering Park, Whickham | Whickham 88-7952 |
| Marley Hill) Whickham).... | Mrs. V. M. Dean | 167, Westway, Dunston | Dunston 60-4601 Dunston 604601 |
| Whickham | Mrs. M. M. Hall | The Beeches, Dunston Bank, Dunston | Dunston 60-4361 |

122 births in the District were notified by District Midwives during the year.

(d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes to give advice to aged or ill persons, to advise expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names and addresses of the Health Visitors for the District and the number and types of domiciliary visits

carried out in the District are given below.

| Ward | Name | Address |
|--|---|---|
| Marley Hill).... Parts of Whickham) | Miss G. Moore | 10, The Briars, Castletown, Sunderland |
| Dunston | Mrs. C. Wilkinson (Part Time) | 91, Whaggs Lane, Whickham |
| Swalwell) Parts of Dunston) Parts of Whickham) | Mrs. A. Watson (until 29th June) Miss O. Ejerinde (From 9th Sept.) | 17, Blanchland Drive, Fulwell, Sunderland 61a, Front Street, Sacriston |

Domiciliary Visits

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|-------|
| Maternity and Child Welfare | .... | .... | .... | 3,174 |
| Tuberculosis | .... | .... | .... | 15 |
| Mentally Sub-normal | .... | .... | .... | 31 |
| School Home Visits | .... | .... | .... | 43 |
| General Health | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| Aged People | .... | .... | .... | 74 |
| Total | | | | 3,350 |

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for this service should be made to the Superintendent of Home Nursing at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411); or to one of the District Nurses whose names, addresses and telephone numbers are listed below.

| Ward | Name | Address | Tel. No. |
|------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|
| Dunston | Mrs. L. Hanson | 13, Horsley Gardens, Dunston | Dunston 60-5048 |
| Marley Hill | Mrs. F. Spriggs | 7, Broadpool Terrace, Whickham | Whickham 88-7631 |
| Whickham | (Mrs. E. M. Hill | 21, Broom Lane, Whickham | Whickham 88-7377 |
| | (Mrs. J. Robinson | Sherburn Cottage, 27, Grange Lane, Whickham | Whickham 88-7129 |
| | (| | |

14,440 visits were made by District Nurses during the year.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may be obtained, free of charge, on application to General Medical Practitioners or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available, free of charge, for all unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for all expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons, on application to General Medical Practitioners, to the County Health Department in Durham, to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Protection is now by oral vaccine.

Yearly schemes are arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the immunisation at school of school children against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained, free of charge, on application to

any General Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Whickham. The vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years of age is carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Vaccination against measles, for susceptible children under the age of 15 years can be obtained on request from General Medical Practitioners and, for children under 5 years, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Vaccination has also been provided this year at school for children between the ages of 5 and 15 years by Medical Officers in a programme arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this Report.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4488) which is responsible for such service to the No. 1 Health Area. The Centre is open for message reception for 24 hours a day.

A General Service Sub-Depot at Winlaton deals, on instruction from Durham, with routine work of the service from 8-0 a.m. to 8-0 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and from 8-0 a.m. to 4-0 p.m. on Saturdays.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below:—

| Stretcher Cases | Sitting Cases | Journeys | Miles |
|-----------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| 3,255 | 27,538 | 6,330 | 180,913 |

(h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, by Durham County Council on request through General Medical Practitioners, District Nurses or Hospital Almoners. Invalid chairs are also available; and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for these services but, in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or waived altogether.

The under-listed items of equipment can be so supplied :—

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Adult Cots | Chairs (Push) | Fracture Boards |
| Air Rings | Chairs (Junior Push) | Junior Spinal Carriages |
| Bed Cages | Chairs (Rim-Driven) | Leg Rests |
| Bed Packs | Commodes | Lifting Poles |
| Bedpans | Dunlopillo Cushions | Mattresses (Sorbo) |
| Bedrests | Eneuresis Sets | Rubber Sheeting |
| Bedsteads (Iron) | | Urinals |

Equipment was received by 297 residents of the District during 1968.

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and by the County Council; information regarding this can be obtained from the County Health Department. Domiciliary visits are made to patients at home by Health Visitors and and District Nurses.

Chiropody Service.

As part of its responsibilities as the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances the Chiropody Service run by the Old People's Welfare Committee. The actual chiropody treatment is carried out by fully qualified chiropodists and all residents of pensionable age are eligible for this service should they require it. Details of this service are set on page 22.

Cervical Cytology.

Throughout the County, sessions are arranged as the demand justifies. One session was held at Blaydon Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic during August for those who had made such request.

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is an expectant mother, lying-in, ill, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser for the District, Mrs. Peacock, 12, Ravensworth Terrace, Dunston. Anyone wishing to contact her can do so at her home (Tel. No. Dunston 604870) or can leave a message for her at Durham 4411, Ext. 378.

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area during the year are given below.

| | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Number of cases at 1-1-68 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 702 |
| New cases served during the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 298 |
| Total number of cases served during the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1,000 |
| Cases terminated during the year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 278 |
| Cases served at 31-12-68 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 722 |
| Number of Home Helps employed at 31-12-68 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 422 |
| Visits made by Assistant Organisers during year | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5,770 |

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Mental Health Act, 1959, the Local Health Authority is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after-care, of the mentally sick and the educationally subnormal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County is situated at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Subnormal which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

Additionally, some educationally sub-normal children from No. 1 Health Area continue to attend daily the Training Centre at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe.

Statistics are given below of the number of residents from this District being cared for or supervised by County Council staff as a responsibility under this Act.

| No. of Persons registered as Mentally Subnormal | No. of Persons under Supervision | No. of Persons in Hospitals |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 79 | 53 | 26 |

(k) Other Community Care Services.

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and scope of duties, of the various Field Officers for these Services, are set out below.

Home Teacher of the Blind

| Name and Address | Tel. No. | Nature of Duties |
|--|--------------|--|
| Miss J. Coulthard, Child Welfare Centre, Shibdon Road, Blaydon | Blaydon 3291 | Domiciliary visiting of blind and partially sighted persons. |

Mental Welfare Officers

| Name and Address | Tel. No. | Nature of Duties |
|--|--|--|
| Mr. J. H. Jobe (Senr.), 48, The Briary, Shotley Bridge | Office: Stanley 2481 Home: Consett 2097 | Removal of mentally ill patients to hospital under Mental Health Act, 1959. Supervision of sub-normal persons, mainly adult males. After-care of mentally ill persons. |
| Mr. J. Clarke, 19, The Crescent, Tanfield Lea, Stanley | Office: Blaydon 3291 Home: Stanley 2447 | |
| Miss H. E. Marshall, Health Department, County Hall, Durham. | Durham 4411 (Ext. 375) | Responsible for supervision of certain sub-normal and psychiatric cases and distribution of Section 57 (Exclusion from School) letters. |

(The Mental Welfare Officers may be contacted at their own homes between 9—10 a.m. and 4—5 p.m; if not available, a message may be left at Durham 4411 Ext. 372).

Social Workers

| Name and Address | Tel. No. | Nature of Duties |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Mr. A. R. Tapster (Senr.), Mrs E. S. Elliott, Miss E. M. Kegie, Mr. J. Thurogood, Hexham Villa, Egton Terrace, Birtley | Birtley 2880 and Birtley 2889 | Casework in respect of handicapped persons, some problem families and evictions. |

Area Children's Officer

| Name and Address | Tel. No. |
|---|-----------------------|
| Miss M. Bloomfield, 53, Station Road, Stanley | Stanley 2792 and 2496 |

Child Care Officers

| To be contacted at Stanley 2792 | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. S. Adair | Mr. S. Horswill |
| Mrs. F. Gordon | Mr. R. Knowles |
| Miss J. Hogarth | Mr. K. Willis |

(1) Health Education.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Local Health and Local Sanitary Authorities

have power to arrange programmes of health education within their area of jurisdiction. Additionally, Local Health Authorities are further authorised in this respect in various sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The County Council Health Education Section has expanded the visual aid service and made available to County staff working in Districts all forms of machinery such as projectors and screens, also posters, pamphlets, films, slides, tape-recordings, cine-cassettes, small exhibitions, photographs and flannelgraphs, if required.

Additionally, each month material is published on a particular subject and issued to all the Child Welfare Centres and to others on request. During 1968, such publications included the following subjects :—

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Smoking and Bronchitis | Poisons out of Doors |
| Safety for Children | Food Hygiene |
| Nutrition | Home, Safe Home |
| Immunisation | Nightdress Safety |
| Foot Health | Drugs/Medicine Safety |
| Mental Health | Christmas Safety |

As District Health Education activities, Ministry and Central Council for Health Education posters and pamphlets have been distributed widely to appropriate organisations for display on the premises and distribution to staff. This has particularly applied to food hygiene and anti-smoking publications.

Committees.

(a) Central Co-ordinating Committee.

Meetings of this Committee are held in County Hall when required.

(b) Local Co-ordinating Committees.

The Local Co-ordinating Committee for No. 1 Health Area, on which the under-listed voluntary organisations were represented, meet as frequently as required.

British Red Cross Society
Local Medical Committee
District Old People's Welfare Committees (3)
Whickham and District Round Table
St. John Ambulance Brigade
Women's Royal Voluntary Service for Civil Defence

It is felt that these meetings serve a very useful purpose in making known to the different organisations the scope of work undertaken by each, thereby determining how such voluntary work could most usefully cover the needs of the Area.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Local Sanitary Authority for the Urban District is the District Council, and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

(a) Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored and financed by this Council with part financial assistance from the County Council and run by the Whickham Branch of the

Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was commenced in 1963 and, at the beginning of the year, 96 recipients were catered for, 24 of whom had hot meals delivered three times per week and the remainder twice per week. An increased supply became possible when the purpose bought Central Kitchen had been converted and opened on the 28th September and, from the beginning of October, 40 persons received meals three times per week and 56 twice per week. Further increases were possible throughout the latter part of the year and, by the end of the year, the service had increased to 104 recipients, 42 receiving meals three times per week and the remainder twice per week. By December it was found possible to supply three very needy persons with meals five times per week.

With the opening of the Central Kitchen, supplies of meals from British Paints Ltd., Dunston, Wimpey's Ltd., Dunston, and the National Coal Board, Marley Hill Colliery Canteen were discontinued and appropriate letters of thanks were sent for the very valuable services of these firms.

(b) Old People's Welfare Committee.

This Committee continued to hold its usual quarterly meeting in the Council Chamber. Praiseworthy progress has continued and the Committee remains a very active body.

I have to report that all four Luncheon Clubs referred to in my 1967 Report have continued in operation at the same high level. No further Chiropody Clinics have been opened during the year but all four reported on in 1967 have continued their activities satisfactorily and comparably with the work done in 1967.

(i) Luncheon Clubs.

Details of each Luncheon Club are given below.

| Club | Date of Opening | Number on Register | Number of Sessions per week | Average Attendance per Session |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dunston | 11- 3-65 | 60 | 1 | 51 |
| Watergate, | | | | |
| Whickham | 13-10-65 | 43 | 1 | 35 |
| Swalwell | 20- 4-66 | 45 | 1 | 39 |
| Marley Hill | 5-10-66 | 45 | 1 | 40 |

(ii) Chiropody.

Details of each Chiropody Clinic at the end of 1968 are given below.

| Centre | Date of Opening | Number on Register | Number of Sessions per week | Average attendance per Session |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dunston | 27- 7-65 | 233 | 2 | 9 |
| Swalwell | 29- 7-65 | 126 | 2 | 8 |
| Whickham | 22- 2-65 | 215 | 2 | 9 |
| Marley Hill | 6- 1-66 | 128 | 1 | 10 |

Total number of persons treated 763

Total number of treatments given 2,771

(c) General Welfare.

Once again I would report on the efficient and enthusiastic work carried out for the welfare of the community by the Housing and Welfare Officer and would comment on the high standard of such work which he has maintained.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic, Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1963.

Family Case Conferences.

Two meetings of the above Committee were held during 1968 under the chairmanship of your Medical Officer of Health. Towards the end of the year, re-organisation took place and cases for discussion in respect of No. 1 Health Area residents will be dealt with during 1969 at meetings of the North West (2) Area Family Case Conference and will be confined to cases in No. 1 Health Area.

The statistics of the District work undertaken throughout 1968 are given below.

| Number of families under discussion on 1st January, 1968 | Number of fam- ilies added to agenda | Number of families on which discussion closed | Number of families remaining for discussion |
|--|--|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

EDUCATION ACT, 1944.

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. These are the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for systematic medical inspection, by routine attendances at schools of an Assistant Medical Officer, and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where Assistant Medical and Dental Officers attend on a sessional basis.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination or treatment, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. When necessary, arrangements are made for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACTS, 1924-1957.

Aged Persons Accommodation.

Under the Housing Acts 1924-1957, the Council has provided 189 one-bedroomed

premises of which 82 are bungalows and the remaining 107 are ground floor flats. In addition, some 57 aged persons are housed in bed-sitting flats.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951.

Section 21—Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at :—

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---------|
| Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton | Tel. No. Blaydon | 2900. |
| “The Hermitage”, Front Street, Whickham. | Tel. No. Whickham | 887372. |
| Derwentdale House, Ryton. | Tel. No. Ryton | 2009. |

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can be admitted also to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 21 residents of the District, 11 males and 10 females, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes. It has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. While there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and of the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, recourse to compulsory powers is rarely needed.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary under this part of the Act.

IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVALENCE

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 603 as compared with 269 in 1967. This includes 28 cases of Infective Hepatitis/Infective Jaundice. *

**TABLE COMPARING NUMBERS OF NOTIFICATIONS
DURING THE YEARS 1967 AND 1968**

| DISEASE | NO. OF CASES 1967 | | | | NO. OF CASES 1968 | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----|-------|-------------------------------|
| | Notified | | | Confirmed by Laboratory | Notified | | | Confirmed by Laboratory |
| | M | F | Total | | M | F | Total | |
| Scarlet Fever | 4 | 3 | 7 | — | — | 2 | 2 | — |
| Whooping Cough | 6 | 12 | 18 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | 103 | 90 | 193 | — | 181 | 173 | 354 | — |
| Acute Pneumonia | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Meningo-coccal Infection ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Encephalitis | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas | — | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | 3 | — |
| Dysentery | 20 | 17 | 37 | 37 | 86 | 115 | 201 | 201 |
| Typhoid Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Paratyphoid Fevers | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 |
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory, ... | 6 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 5 | — |
| .. , Meninges and C.N.S. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| .. , Other Forms ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 141 | 128 | 269 | 46 | 279 | 296 | 575 | 207 |
| Infective Hepatitis | — | — | — | — | 7 | 4 | 11 | — |
| Infective Jaundice | — | — | — | — | 10 | 7 | 17 | — |

*Infective Jaundice was made a notifiable disease on 15th June, 1968.

INCIDENCE OF PRINCIPAL DISEASES SINCE 1958

| Year | Scarlet Fever | | Diphtheria | | Typhoid and Paratyphoid | | Measles | | Whooping Cough | | Tuberculosis | |
|------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | Cases Notified | Deaths | Cases Notified | Deaths | Cases Notified | Deaths | Cases Notified | Deaths | Cases Notified | Deaths | Cases Notified | Deaths |
| 1958 | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | 54 | — | 141 | — | 19 | 2 |
| 1959 | 77 | — | — | — | — | — | 462 | — | 26 | — | 17 | 5 |
| 1960 | 39 | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | 27 | — | 12 | 1 |
| 1961 | 12 | — | — | — | — | — | 629 | — | 10 | — | 13 | 1 |
| 1962 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | — | 7 | — | 15 | 2 |
| 1963 | 11 | — | — | — | — | — | 539 | — | 8 | — | 9 | 1 |
| 1964 | 34 | — | — | — | — | — | 120 | — | 13 | — | 12 | 1 |
| 1965 | 50 | — | — | — | — | — | 425 | — | 18 | — | 7 | — |
| 1966 | 34 | — | — | — | — | — | 324 | — | 32 | — | 10 | — |
| 1967 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | 193 | — | 18 | — | 8 | 1 |
| 1968 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 354 | — | — | — | 5 | — |

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968
SHOWING MONTHLY AND WARD DISTRIBUTION

| Diseases | MONTHS | | | | | | | | | | | | Totals | WARDS | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|--------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | | Dunston | Marley Hill | Swalwell | Whickham |
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | 34 | 20 | 33 | 35 | 74 | 70 | 64 | 20 | 4 | — | — | — | 354 | 124 | 35 | 19 | 176 |
| Acute Pneumonia | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Meningo-coccal Infection | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Acute Encephalitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 3 | — | — | — |
| Dysentery | 13 | 142 | 19 | 17 | 6 | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 201 | 169 | 3 | 7 | 22 |
| Typhoid Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Paratyphoid Fevers | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7 | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis : | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Respiratory | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 5 | 1 | — | — | 4 |
| Meninges and C.N.S. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 49 | 164 | 55 | 52 | 81 | 74 | 72 | 22 | 5 | — | 1 | — | 575 | 307 | 39 | 26 | 203 |
| Infective Hepatitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 6 | — | — | — | 11 | 2 | — | 7 | 2 |
| Infective Jaundice | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 3 | 10 | 17 | — | — | 15 | 2 |
| Total | 49 | 164 | 55 | 52 | 81 | 74 | 72 | 27 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 603 | 309 | 39 | 48 | 207 |

TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
SHOWING AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION DURING 1968

| DISEASE | Total Cases Notified | AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | Under 1 year | 1 — 2 years | 3 — 4 years | 5 — 9 years | 10 — 14 years | 15 -- 19 years | 20 — 24 years | 25 — 44 years | 45 — 64 years | Over 65 years | Age Unknown |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | 354 | 12 | 120 | 106 | 110 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 |
| Acute Pneumonia | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meningo-coccal Infection | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Encephalitis | 2 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Smallpox | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Dysentery | 201 | 6 | 17 | 24 | 78 | 17 | 4 | 5 | 42 | 8 | — | — |
| Typhoid Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Paratyphoid Fevers | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | 7 | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis:- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Respiratory .. | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Meninges & C.N.S. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 575 | 19 | 139 | 131 | 192 | 18 | 7 | 6 | 44 | 15 | 2 | 2 |
| Infective Hepatitis ... | 11 | — | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Infective Jaundice ... | 17 | — | 1 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Totals | 603 | 19 | 141 | 133 | 205 | 24 | 9 | 7 | 46 | 15 | 2 | 2 |

*Infective Jaundice was made a notifiable disease on the 15th June, 1968.

Scarlet Fever.

Two cases of scarlet fever were notified.

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation has been considered necessary, this has always been possible to arrange by admission to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Diphtheria.

For the twentieth year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were notified.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during 1968, the last notification being in 1955.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox have been notified since 1931.

Dysentery.

201 cases of dysentery were notified during the year, a continuation of the outbreak which commenced late in 1967 and was reported upon last year. The number of notifications decreased progressively through the third and fourth months until they became few and sporadic by May. All infections were of the mild Sonnei type and a close check was kept on all cases and contacts. Most of the cases occurred in the Dunston ward, although the outbreak was not confined to that ward. Extensive and willing collaboration in controlling the spread of the infection in schools, was forthcoming from the School Health Service and the County Education Department, particularly the Divisional Education Officer and the Head Teachers of schools involved. Strict hygiene measures were introduced into all schools in the District. The Public Health Laboratory Service was of the greatest assistance in the determining of cases and the clearing of contacts.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of typhoid fever have been notified since 1938.

Paratyphoid Fever.

Apart from an unconfirmed case of paratyphoid in 1955, there have no cases notified since 1952.

Food Poisoning.

Seven cases of food poisoning of different Salmonella organisms were notified. Routine investigations were carried out to determine the source of infection but without the source being traced.

Tuberculosis.

Five cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. No cases were transferred into the District. Detailed figures are shown in Tables A to E.

It was not necessary to take any action under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment in dairies of persons suffering from tuberculosis; nor was action necessary under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Table A — Cases Notified during 1967 and 1968 (including inward transfers).

| Year | | Total | Dunston | Marley Hill | Swalwell | Whickham |
|------|-----------------|-------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|
| 1968 | Respiratory | 5 | 1 | — | — | 4 |
| | Non-Respiratory | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Totals | 5 | 1 | — | — | 4 |
| 1967 | Totals | 15(7) | 7(4) | — | 2(1) | 6(2) |

() shows number of inward transfers.

Table B—Age group distribution of new cases notified (including inward transfers)

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year | — | — | — | — |
| 1— 4 | — | — | — | — |
| 5—14 | — | — | — | — |
| 15—24 | — | 2 | — | — |
| 25—34 | — | — | — | — |
| 35—44 | — | 1 | — | — |
| 45—54 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 55—64 | — | — | — | — |
| 65 and over | 1 | — | — | — |
| Age not known.... | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 2 | 3 | — | — |

() shows number of inward transfers.

Table C—Comparative Table of Registered Tuberculosis Sufferers.

| Sex | No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year 1968 | | No. of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1968 | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| | Respiratory | Non-Respiratory | Respiratory | Non-Respiratory |
| Male | 67 | 7 | 61 | 7 |
| Female | 48 | 6 | 43 | 6 |
| Totals | 115 | 13 | 104 | 13 |

Table D — Removals from the Tuberculosis Register during 1968.

| Reasons | Totals | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
|----------------------------|--------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Removed from District | 5 | 5 | — | — | — |
| Recovered | 10 | 3 | 7 | — | — |
| Deceased | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| Totals | 16 | 8 | 8 | — | — |

Table E — Tuberculosis Incidence 1955-1968.

| Year | Whickham Urban District Council | | | | | | Administrative County of Durham | | | England and Wales | | |
|------|---------------------------------|------|----|-------------|------|-------|------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|
| | Incidence | | | Attack Rate | | | Attack Rate | | | Attack Rate | | |
| | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. |
| 1955 | 26 | 3 | 29 | 1.121 | .129 | 1.250 | .771 | .125 | .896 | .756 | .102 | .858 |
| 1956 | 39 | 3 | 42 | 1.561 | .128 | 1.689 | .746 | .116 | .862 | .701 | .092 | .793 |
| 1957 | 18 | 6 | 24 | .754 | .251 | 1.005 | .683 | .116 | .799 | .644 | .085 | .729 |
| 1958 | 16 | 3 | 19 | .662 | .124 | .786 | .637 | .097 | .734 | .586 | .076 | .662 |
| 1959 | 13 | 4 | 17 | .533 | .164 | .697 | .509 | .082 | .591 | .534 | .062 | .596 |
| 1960 | 8 | 4 | 12 | .321 | .160 | .481 | .497 | .068 | .560 | .455 | .061 | .516 |
| 1961 | 9 | 4 | 13 | .352 | .166 | .518 | .438 | .077 | .515 | .412 | .058 | .470 |
| 1962 | 13 | 2 | 15 | .512 | .079 | .591 | .444 | .063 | .507 | .382 | .057 | .439 |
| 1963 | 6 | 3 | 9 | .233 | .117 | .350 | .363 | .060 | .423 | .348 | .055 | .403 |
| 1964 | 12 | nil | 12 | .457 | — | .457 | .332 | .067 | .399 | .321 | .054 | .375 |
| 1965 | 7 | nil | 7 | .259 | — | .259 | .263 | .051 | .314 | .274 | .053 | .337 |
| 1966 | 7 | 3 | 10 | .254 | .109 | .363 | .303 | .036 | .339 | .256 | .047 | .303 |
| 1967 | 8 | nil | 8 | .287 | — | .287 | .288 | .027 | .315 | .228 | .045 | .274 |
| 1968 | 5 | — | 5 | .177 | — | .177 | .284 | .033 | .317 | .220 | .047 | .267 |

R. Respiratory. N.R. Non-Respiratory. T. Total

Attack Rate — Incidence per 1,000 population

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, of residents in the District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection can be given separately or jointly against each of these infections. Details of the work undertaken through health services in this District are given below.

Diphtheria.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Children born in | .... | 1961-64 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
| Primary | .... | .... | 7 | 8 | 4 | 174 |
| Boosters | .... | .... | 260 | 19 | 154 | 67 |

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Children born in | .... | 1961-64 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
| Primary | .... | .... | 45 | — | — | — |
| Boosters | .... | .... | 145 | — | — | — |

Whooping Cough.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Children born in | .... | 1961-64 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
| Primary | .... | .... | 1 | 7 | 4 | 174 |
| Boosters | .... | .... | 59 | 14 | 147 | 62 |

Tetanus.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Children born in | .... | 1961-64 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
| Primary | .... | .... | 7 | 8 | 4 | 174 |
| Boosters | .... | .... | 260 | 19 | 155 | 67 |

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Children born in | .... | 1961-64 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
| Primary | .... | .... | 45 | — | — | — |
| Boosters | .... | .... | 134 | — | — | — |

Measles.

Details of the number of vaccinations given during the year 1968 are set out below.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|--------------------|-------|
| Children born in | .... | .... | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1961-4 | Others under 16 | Total |
| | | | 81 | 71 | 47 | 120 | 13 | 332 |

Poliomyelitis.

Details of the number of primary vaccinations and booster doses given during the year 1968 are set out below.

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Primary courses | Booster doses |
| 455 | 483 |

Smallpox.

Details of the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations given during 1968 are set out below.

| Primary Vaccination | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|----------|-----------|-------|
| Under 1 yr. | 1 yr. | 2-4 yrs. | 5-15 yrs. | Total |
| 17 | 199 | 33 | 14 | 263 |
| Re-Vaccination | | | | |
| Under 1 yr. | 1 yr. | 2-4 yrs. | 5-15 yrs. | Total |
| — | — | 1 | 5 | 6 |

Tuberculosis.

Heaf Testing (School Health Service).

In Infants' Schools, during 1968, Health Visitors carried out routine Heaf testing of new entrants. The results were read the following week by Assistant Medical Officers and, where positive, appropriate action was taken.

| | No. Heaf Tested | No. Heaf Positive |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Dunston County | 35 | 1 |
| Dunston Roman Catholic | 22 | 1 |
| Marley Hill County | 1 | — |
| Whickham Fellside County | 43 | 3 |
| Total | 101 | 5 |

B.C.G. Vaccination.

Details of the programmes of B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in 1968 are given below.

| | No. Vaccinated | No. Heaf Positive | Non- Consents | Total in Age Group |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Whickham Secondary | 120 | 21 | 6 | 163 |
| Dunston Hill Secondary | 97 | 23 | 8 | 143 |
| | <u>217</u> | <u>44</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>306</u> |

V.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Water Supply

The Dunston, Swalwell and the greater part of the Whickham Wards are supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company: and the Marley Hill Ward and a small part of the Whickham Ward are supplied by the Durham County Water Board.

All dwelling houses in the District are supplied by direct mains.

The mains water is of good quality, the supply being continuous and plentiful. 15 samples were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination, all samples being found to be satisfactory.

The following are details of the houses and population supplied :—

| | | | |
|--|------|------|--------|
| Houses supplied by direct mains at April, 1968 | .... | .... | 9,779 |
| Population supplied by direct mains | .... | .... | 28,220 |

I am indebted, to Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and to Durham County Water Board, for reports the substance of which appear below.

Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

A total of 1,162 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's Laboratory during the calendar year ended the 31st December, 1968, and, of these, 99·74% were excellent.

In addition to the foregoing, other samples examined included :—

235 from Warkworth Filters at Longbenton Governor House, 312 from special fixed sampling points and 152 at random in the area, all of which were of "excellent" quality. Of these numbers, 9 samples were taken from the Whickham area.

The following new mains were laid in the Urban District during the period :—

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| 196 linear yards of 3" diameter pipes |
| 685 linear yards of 4" diameter pipes |
| 587 linear yards of 6" diameter pipes |
| 20 linear yards of 8" diameter pipes |

8,904 dwellings in the District were supplied by the Company.

Durham County Water Board.

Below are details of water supplies classified according to the type of premises and whether domestic or on meter :—

| | Domestic | Meters | Total |
|--|----------|--------|-------|
| Dwelling houses | 909 | 30 | 939 |
| Premises used partly as dwelling accommodation and partly for other purposes | 11 | 6 | 17 |

Details, of classification and percentage number in each class, of water samples

taken by the Board, are given below :—

Bacteriological Samples

| Class 1 | Class 2 | Class 3 | Class 4 | Total |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| 2 | nil | nil | nil | 2 |
| 100% | — | — | — | — |

The work carried out in the Urban District has been in connection with the usual extension of mains required for housing development.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No formal action under this heading was needed during the year.

3. Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of several farms and isolated houses where sewers are not available, all houses in the District are provided with water closets.

Continuing efforts are being made to eliminate privies and similar closets but, in the absence of enforcing legislation, this can only be done by persuasion.

The following table summarises closet accommodation.

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Water closets | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 10,455 |
| Privies | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 15 |
| Closets other than water closets | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 |

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The collection and disposal of all household and trade refuse is organised so as to enable a collection to be made from all premises at least once per week.

A new refuse collection vehicle was purchased during the year and the collection of refuse is now carried out by a Bedford/Eagle 50 cubic yard capacity compression type vehicle, a Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic 50 cubic yard capacity compression vehicle Shelvoke and Drewry 25 cubic yard fore and aft tipping vehicle and a Shelvoke and Drewry 10/12 cubic yard capacity side loading vehicle held as a spare in case of breakdowns.

The estimated weight of refuse collected during the year was 16,500 tons; this represented 32.04 cwts. per 1,000 population per day.

The paper sack system of refuse collection continued to be extended in 1968 and, by the end of the year, 1,917 houses were provided with paper sack units.

Tipping was continued on the refuse tip rented from Blaydon Rugby Football Club at Swalwell, refuse being levelled and covered with soil by the use of a J.C.B. tractor with shovel attachment.

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

Following very heavy storms, flooding still occurs in Hole Lane, Sunnyside, and Wellington Road, Dunston, but it is planned to alleviate the flooding in Hole Lane by the construction of a new surface water sewer in 1969.

Most of the sewage from the District is discharged, untreated, directly into the rivers Derwent and Tyne.

6. Atmospheric Pollution.

(a) Measurement.

Daily readings were taken from a Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide Recorder and Combined Smoke Filter installed in the building housing the Health Department.

Volumetric SO₂ Recorder and Combined Smoke Filter — 1968

| | Smoke Concentrations in Micro-grammes per Cubic Metre of Air | | | SO ₂ in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre of Air | | |
|----------------|--|----------------|-----------------|--|----------------|-----------------|
| | Highest Reading | Lowest Reading | Monthly Average | Highest Reading | Lowest Reading | Monthly Average |
| January | 400 | 47 | 130 | 247.5 | 26.5 | 123 |
| February | 496 | 17 | 137.5 | 237.0 | 32. | 144.2 |
| March | 300 | 32 | 83. | 305 | 22 | 72 |
| April | 130 | 26 | 72 | 161 | 36.5 | 98 |
| May | 95 | 35 | 51.3 | 152 | 49.5 | 84 |
| June | 156 | 15 | 44.2 | 205 | 25.5 | 63.8 |
| July | 68 | 13 | 38.2 | 138 | 30 | 44 |
| August | 68 | 13 | 29 | 108 | 38 | 63 |
| September | 80 | 25 | 40.3 | 182 | 40.5 | 89.5 |
| October | 129 | 14.8 | 49.9 | 131 | 23 | 56 |
| November | 250 | 16 | 60.5 | 215 | 31 | 93.3 |
| December | 213 | 34 | 101 | 194 | 62 | 119 |

(b) Domestic Smoke.

The Whickham Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Smoke Control Orders 1967 were confirmed by the Minister during the year and the Whickham No. 8 Smoke Control Order was submitted for confirmation in December.

Good progress was maintained on the smoke control programme and it is anticipated that this can be maintained during 1969.

By the end of the year, 780 dwellings and 826 acres of land were covered by Smoke Control Orders.

(c) Industrial Smoke.

On only one occasion had attention to be drawn to an emission of black smoke from chimneys of the Dunston Power Station and this was quickly remedied. Good relationships continued to be maintained with the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Alkali Inspector who is responsible for the inspection of the plant.

(d) Spoil Banks.

There has been no evidence of nuisance from spoil heaps in the District.

7. Noise Abatement.

Two complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year, both being of the noise from road breakers used by a public utility company. Although mufflers were provided by the Company they were not in use but, following representations by the Department, the mufflers were fitted and complaints ceased in each instance.

There is only one caravan site in the District upon which no more than three caravans could be parked at any one time. Following the appeal referred to in my 1967 Report, the site owner was given permission to keep no more than four caravans there at any one time.

9. Offensive Trades.

10. Shops Act, 1950.

Twenty visits were made for the purposes of the Act and to ensure that the statutory closing hours were observed.

Fifty-eight inspections were made during the year; the work carried out is shown in the Appendix to this Report.

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

These are listed in the Register of Food Premises and were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

(a) Rodent Control

36

One test bait and one sewer treatment were carried out during the year.

No. of manholes treated 186 in November.

(b) Insect Control

An insecticidal powder is issued to householders, free of charge, to deal with minor infestations, mainly cockroaches. In cases of difficulty, the Department carry out remedial measures and a charge is made for the service. 84 treatments were carried out by the Department and details of the infestations dealt with are as follows :—

| Insect | Dwelling Houses | Others |
|------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Beetles | 47 | 3 |
| Fleas | 3 | — |
| Wasps | 3 | — |
| Ants | 9 | — |
| Bees | 2 | — |
| Clover Mite | 12 | — |
| Snails | 1 | — |
| Flies | 3 | — |
| Bed Bugs | 1 | — |
| | 81 | 3 |

15. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Due to the pressure of other work in the Department, it was not possible to devote as much time to this aspect of the work as hoped. The visits made were mainly to ascertain that notices, specifying works to be carried out, were complied with.

Notices, drawing attention to 9 separate contraventions of the Act, were served during the year and 76 were complied with.

Three accidents were notified, all being of a minor nature, 2 of which were investigated. All accidents were due to the negligence of the employees concerned.

The following table shows defects discovered and remedied during the year.

| | Notices served | Notices complied with |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Cleanliness | — | 2 |
| Temperature | 2 | 4 |
| Thermometers | 1 | 11 |
| Lighting | — | 4 |
| Sanitary Conveniences : | | |
| New waterclosets required | — | 1 |
| Disrepair and decoration | 2 | 10 |
| Lighting | — | 6 |
| Ventilation | — | 1 |
| Marking | — | 1 |
| Washing Facilities : | | |
| Decoration | — | 1 |
| New wash-hand basins | — | 3 |
| Running hot or warm water | — | 6 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----|
| Soap, towels, etc. | 2 | 4 |
| Lighting | — | 1 |
| Clothing accommodation | — | 4 |
| Sitting facilities | — | 1 |
| Staircase and Floors : | | |
| Disrepair | — | 2 |
| Handrails | — | 2 |
| Fencing machinery | — | 2 |
| First-aid materials | 1 | 6 |
| Information for Employees | 1 | 3 |
| Drinking Water | — | 1 |
| Totals | 9 | 76 |

| Class of Premises | Number of pre- mises registered during the year | Total number of registered pre- mises at end of year | Number of reg- istered premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|--|---|---|--|
| Offices | — | 43 | 1 |
| Retail shops | 1 | 133 | 1 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses ... | — | 3 | — |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | — | 30 | — |
| Fuel storage depots | — | 1 | — |
| Totals | 1 | 210 | 2 |

Number of visits by inspectors to all kinds of registered premises 37.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

| Class of Workplace | Number of persons employed |
|---|----------------------------|
| Offices | 344 |
| Retail shops | 423 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | 15 |
| Catering establishments open to the public | 171 |
| Canteens | — |
| Fuel storage depots | 12 |
| Total | 965 |
| Total Males | 390 |
| Total Females | 575 |

16. Cinemas.

There are no cinemas in operation in the District.

17. Swimming Baths.

The Dunston Swimming Baths have 2 pools, one of which is for learners.

The water in the swimming pools is purified by re-circulation through sand pressure filters. The Break Point Chlorination Process is employed to sterilise the water whereby a free chlorine residual of between 1.0 and 2.0 parts per million is maintained. The free chlorine forms at least 75 per cent of the total chlorine.

The swimming pools are heated by low pressure hot water calorifiers and pool temperatures are maintained at 80°F. and 78°F. in winter and summer respectively.

On the 16th December a Sauna Bath, which had been under construction during the year, was officially opened and it is expected that this additional amenity will add to the enjoyment of users of the swimming baths.

Admissions to the swimming baths were as follows :

| | | | | | |
|------------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| Adults | .... | .... | .... | .... | 55,568 |
| Children | .... | .... | .... | .... | 109,344 |
| Spectators | .... | .... | .... | .... | 28,139 |
| Sauna Bath | .... | .... | .... | .... | 83 |

18. Disinfection of Houses.

There was no demand during the year for the issue of free disinfectant nor was it found to be necessary to carry out any disinfection of houses.

19. Mortuaries.

There are 2 mortuaries in the District, one each in Dunston and in Swalwell.

20. Schools.

The condition of all schools throughout the District was satisfactory.

21. Recreation Grounds.

The recreation parks at Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell add considerably to the amenities of the District. Gardens, pavilions, bowling greens, children's playgrounds, a paddling pool and a children's zoo are provided. The provision of these amenities make a notable contribution to the general health of the community.

Although not strictly under the heading of Recreation Grounds, it is pleasing to note that Whickham won the trophy in the Large Village class in the Durham County Tidy Village Contest and Dunston and Swalwell were second and third respectively in the Industrial Village class.

22. Riding Establishments.

There is one licensed Riding Establishment in the District. Regular visits were

made on behalf of the Council by a local Veterinary Surgeon who reported that he was satisfied with the condition of the premises and animals.

23. Animal Boarding Establishments.

There is one licensed establishment in the District in which cats are boarded. The premises are regularly inspected and are satisfactory in every respect.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied

| | No. of Inspections | No of Informal Notices served | No. of Statutory Notices served | Defects remedied after Notices | Legal Proceed- ings and General Remarks |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Housing :— | | | | | |
| Public Health and Housing Acts | 648 | 67 | 2 | 76 | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences :— | | | | | |
| Defective | 6 | 3 | — | — | — |
| Drainage | 55 | 7 | — | 2 | — |
| Water Supply | 35 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Food Premises/Unfit Food | 79 | — | — | — | — |
| Moveable Dwellings | 10 | — | — | — | — |
| Factories Act, 1961 | 58 | 4 | — | 4 | — |
| Keeping of Animals | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| Smoke Nuisances/Clean Air Act, 1956 | 1,655 | — | — | — | — |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act | 255 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | 345 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Infectious Diseases | 2,366 | — | — | — | — |
| House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 | 159 | — | — | — | — |
| Dirty or Verminous Premises | 15 | — | — | — | — |
| Sampling | 95 | — | — | — | — |
| Noise Abatement Act, 1960 | 14 | — | — | — | — |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Pre- mises Act, 1963 | 37 | 6 | — | 6 | — |
| Totals | 5,834 | 90 | 2 | 88 | — |

VI. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Milk Products.

This District is part of a specified area in which only milk of special designation may be sold.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production, at the 14 dairy farms in the District, is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies.

There are no dairies registered under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959.

Distributors and Retailers.

The County Council are responsible for licensing, and also undertake milk sampling, in respect of milk of special designation.

Milk Sampling.

96 samples, of various designated milks, were taken by the Durham County Council Health Department from milk distributors, schools and hospitals in the District.

The following table shows the results of such tests :—

| Class of Milk | No. Taken | Appropriate Test | No. Passed | No. Failed |
|---------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Untreated | 5 | Methylene Blue | 3 | 2 |
| | | Animal Innoculation | 2 | — |
| | | Antibiotic | 3 | — |
| Pasteurised | 49 | Methylene Blue | 49 | — |
| | | Phosphatase | 49 | — |
| | | Antibiotic | — | — |
| Sterilised | 42 | Turbidity | 42 | — |

Diseases from Milk.

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream.

One factory continued to be registered for the manufacture of ice cream, manufacturing being carried out under satisfactory conditions.

Samples were taken regularly for bacteriological examination and, apart from one which was Grade III, all samples were found to be Grade I.

Five samples of ice cream, taken from shops and mobile vans, were submitted

for bacteriological examination and were found to be satisfactory.

By the end of the year, 76 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

2. Meat and Meat Products.

Meat.

There is no slaughterhouse in this District.

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, one slaughterman's licence was renewed for a period of twelve months.

Meat Products.

134 lbs. of canned and other meats were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

3. Other Foods.

Fourteen articles of food, which were alleged by the purchasers to be not of the nature or substance or quality expected at the time of purchase, were brought to the notice of the Health Department and given below is a brief summary of the measures taken.

| Articles of food. | Remarks. | Action Taken. |
|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Fish Finger | Small piece of metal alleged to be found in food. | Letter of caution. |
| Luncheon Meat | Mouldy due to perforated tin. | Letter of caution. |
| Corned Beef | Foreign body found on examination to be a piece of bone. | Letter of caution. |
| Loaf of Bread | Mouldy | Letter of caution. |
| Loaf of Bread | Mouldy | Letter of caution. |
| Bottle of Milk | Alleged to have unpleasant taste. | Complaint not justified. |
| Lollipop | Contained a small piece of wire. | Letter of caution. |
| Irish Stew | Alleged to have bad taste. | Not confirmed on analysis. |
| Corned Beef | Mouldy due to defective seam in tin. | Letter of caution. |
| Cream Cake | Alleged to have diesel oil taste. | Complaint not justified. |
| Corned Beef | Alleged to have bad taste. | Complaint not justified. |
| Sausage | Contained plastic coin. | Letter of caution. |
| Marmalade | Contained dead bee. | Letter of caution. |
| Ice Lolly | Unpleasant odour and taste due to fermentation. | Letter of caution. |

The following foodstuffs were surrendered by traders after being found to be unfit for human consumption. Disposal is by burial on the Council's refuse tip.

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------------|
| Meat at retail shops | .... | .... | .... | .... | 55 lbs. |
| Canned meats | .... | .... | .... | .... | 79 lbs. |
| Other canned foods | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 cwts. 41 lbs. |
| Other foods | .... | .... | .... | .... | 39 lbs. |

4. Food Premises.

The following is a summary, of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried out in them.

| Type of Premises | No. | No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 | No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies | No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 |
|------------------------------|-----|---|--|---|
| Bakers | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Ice Cream Manufacturer | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Catering Premises | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Butchers | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| Fish Shops— | | | | |
| Fried Fish | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Wet Fish | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Grocers | 23 | 22 | 23 | 23 |
| Greengrocers | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| General Dealers | 37 | 37 | 37 | 37 |
| Confectioners (Sweets) | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Confectioners (Cakes) | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Chemists | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Licensed Premises | 31 | 30 | 30 | 30 |
| Off-Licence Premises | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |

Inspections

77 visits were made to food premises in the District and notices were served drawing attention to infringements of the Regulations. Most of these irregularities were corrected promptly.

5. Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List of Samples taken in the Whickham Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, during the year ended 31st December, 1968.

| | |
|----------|--|
| | 33 Milk |
| | 2 Chopped Ham |
| | 1 Chopped Ham and Tongue |
| | 1 Pork Luncheon Meat |
| | 1 Chopped Pork and Tongue |
| Informal | 1 Stewed Steak |
| Informal | 1 Migg |
| | 1 Mixed Fruit |
| Informal | 1 Glycerine Syrup of Blackcurrant & Purified Honey |
| Informal | 1 Buttercup Syrup |

| | |
|----------|--|
| | 6 Tea |
| | 1 Milky Bar |
| | 1 Noodle Shells in Cheese Sauce |
| | 1 Noodle Shells in Tomato Sauce |
| Informal | 2 Margarine |
| | 1 Preserving Sugar |
| | 1 Instant Low Fat Skimmed Milk |
| | 1 Pineapple Juice |
| | 1 Cake Covering Plain Chocolate Flavour |
| | 1 Concentrated Ice Lolly Syrup Pineapple Flavour |
| | 1 Read-Rice |
| Informal | 1 Smoked Salmon Mayonnaise |
| Informal | 1 Rollmop Herrings |
| Informal | 1 Matzos |
| | 1 Egg Noodles Folded |
| Informal | 1 Pot Roast |
| | 1 Brown Ale |
| | 1 Golden Export |
| Informal | 1 Gripe Water |
| Informal | 1 Vick Medicated Cough Drops |
| Informal | 1 Wades Salve |
| Informal | 1 Stewed Beef and Vegetables |
| | 3 Lemon Drink |
| | 3 Orange Drink |
| | 1 Lemon Barley Water |
| | 1 Pure Corn Oil |
| | 1 Blackcurrant Jam |
| | 1 Ascot Creams |
| Informal | 1 Tinned Custard |
| Informal | 1 Dr. Williams Pink Pills |
| Informal | 1 Setlers Indigestion Tablets |
| Informal | 1 Snowfire Healing Tablets |
| Informal | 1 Roast Beef Dinner |
| | 1 Beef Sausage |
| | 1 Minced Meat |
| | 1 Ice Cream |
| | 1 Table Jellies Orange Flavour |
| | 1 Instant Non-Fat Milk |
| Informal | 1 Cream |
| Informal | 1 Hubbly Bubbly |
| Informal | 1 Frying Compound |
| Informal | 1 Lard |
| Informal | 1 Prunes |
| Informal | 1 Ground Ginger |
| Informal | 1 Cocoa |
| Informal | 1 Stewed Steak |
| | 2 Margarine |
| | 1 Lard |
| | 1 Cooking Fat |
| | 1 Self Raising Flour |

| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| | 1 Fruit Cherry Cake |
| Informal | 1 Urillac |
| Informal | 1 T.C.P. Throat Pastilles |
| Informal | 1 Steedman's Soothing Powder |
| | 1 Full Cream Dried Milk |
| | 1 Beer |
| Informal | 1 Fish Fingers |

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All samples were certified to be of genuine quality with the exception of the following :—

Concentrated Ice Lolly Syrup Pineapple Flavour.

At the subsequent court proceedings, the vendors, who pleaded guilty, were conditionally discharged for a period of 12 months and ordered to pay cost amounting to £11.

6. Registration of Premises.

The number and types of registered premises in the District are as follows :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|----|
| Ice Cream | .... | .... | .... | .... | 76 |
| Preserved Foods | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Fried Fish Shops | .... | .... | .... | .... | 11 |

VII. HOUSING AND HOUSING MANAGEMENT

1. Building Progress.

The number of houses built in the District during the year was as follows :—

| | |
|---|-----|
| Houses built by private enterprise | 110 |
| Houses built by Council | 68 |

The number of houses built in the District since 1945 was as follows :—

| | By Council | By Private Enterprise | Total |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------|-------|
| 1945-54 | 608 | 264 | 872 |
| 1955-64 | 693 | 1799 | 2492 |
| 1965-68 | 205 | 631 | 896 |

The 108 bungalows on the Rectory Field Estate, Whickham were completed and a start was made on the houses at Sunnyside Old Farm Estate, Sunnyside, and at Ravensworth Road, Dunston.

2. Private Housing.

The Ravensworth Road (Various Properties) Compulsory Purchase Order 1966, was confirmed during the year and this property is expected to be demolished during 1969. 12 persons from 5 families in the Ravensworth Road area were rehoused during the year.

Towards the end of the year, a start was made on rehousing the residents of the colliery houses at Byermoor, 126 persons from 44 families being rehoused. At the end of the year only 8 of the original 53 houses were occupied.

During the year, one house was declared individually unfit and a total of 13 persons from 3 individually unfit houses were rehoused by the Council.

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

- (a) Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action 5
- (b) Number of houses closed as a result of formal action 13
- (c) Number of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which was temporarily postponed.... Nil
- (d) Number of houses in use as temporary accommodation Nil

Reconditioning and Repair.

Houses made fit during the year by the procedure under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) — 75.

- (a) As a result of informal action 75
- (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice Nil
- (c) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

Improvement Grants — Housing Acts, 1949/59.

| | | Number of Separate Houses Discretionary Grants | Standard Grants |
|-----|---|---|--------------------|
| (a) | Applications submitted to Local Authority during 1968 | 12 | 32 |
| (b) | Applications rejected by Local Authority during 1968 | — | — |
| (c) | Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme | 105 | 464 |
| (d) | Total number of grants paid since inception of scheme | 116 | 353 |

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received for certificates of disrepair. A certificate of disrepair was made operative on one house in the District and it was hoped to demolish this in 1968. However, it is expected that this will take place in 1969.

Overcrowding.

Where cases of overcrowding are reported to the Council, efforts are made to deal with these as quickly as possible, 42 families being re-housed during the year to abate overcrowding.

3. Council Housing.

Housing Progress.

At the beginning of the year, 1,025 applications for council accommodation had been received or renewed. On investigation, it was found that half of the applicants would benefit from being rehoused, the main reasons being the lack of hot water systems, baths and indoor toilets in the properties, the lack of these amenities causing particular hardship amongst the elderly.

During 1968, 83 new houses were completed and a further 99 became available for re-letting. Some 35% of all houses let were to meet slum clearance needs. The rehousing of families took place, mainly, from Byermoor and individually unfit houses in Dunston.

Allocations : Council Houses.

Comparative Figures, 1958-1968.

| | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tenancies Allocated | 291 | 349 | 146 | 164 | 248 | 153 | 494 | 218 | 297 | 270 | 374 |
| New Houses Let | 129 | 124 | — | — | 71 | — | 171 | 53 | 90 | 56 | 84 |

374 tenancies were allocated of which 164 were exchanges and 59 tenancy transfers.

Analysis of Allocations

Table 1 — Main Reasons for Allocations

| Unfit Houses | Exchanges to more suitable accommodation | Tenancy Transfers to surviving family | General Need | Total |
|--------------|---|--|--------------|-------|
| 52 | 164 | 59 | 99 | 374 |

Table 2 — Size of Houses Allocated

| 3-Roomed | 4-Roomed | 5-Roomed | Single Persons | Aged Persons | Total |
|----------|----------|----------|----------------|--------------|-------|
| 135 | 115 | 17 | 63 | 44 | 374 |

Table 3 — Summary of Exchanges

| Better Accommodation | To facilitate slum clearance | To be near relatives | To remedy over-crowding | To remedy under-occupation | Outside District | Medical reasons | Total |
|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| 36 | 23 | 19 | 42 | 15 | 6 | 23 | 164 |

Sub Tenants.

Sub tenancies are only allowed by permission of the Council. Permission is usually granted for 6 months and must be renewed thereafter. Except in certain cases, an extra 10/- per week is charged per adult.

Applications considered during 1968.

| | Granted | Refused | Total |
|-----------|---------|---------|-------|
| New Cases | 48 | 1 | 49 |
| Renewals | 61 | — | 61 |

Demand for Council Houses.

At the end of 1968, the number of applicants on the waiting list had risen to 1,098 compared with 1,025 at the end of 1967.

A breakdown of details of housing applications are shown on pages 50 and 51.

Housing Sub-Committee

This Committee, composed of 7 councillors and the Housing and Welfare Officer, met monthly to assist in Housing Allocation.

Evictions.

No cases were reported of eviction of families from private dwelling houses in 1968.

Modernisation of Pre-War Council Houses.

In December 1968, a start was made on the modernisation of 347 pre-war council houses. 257 in the Dunston ward and 90 in the Swalwell ward. The scheme includes the alteration of all doors, and windows also the provision of new baths and waterclosets and a full solid fuel central heating system. In addition, the gardens fronting the houses will be landscaped.

BREAKDOWN of HOUSING

| WARD | 2 Bedroom Type | | Total | 3 Bedroom Type | | Total | 4 Be |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------------|
| | Need for rehousing | No need for rehousing | | Need for rehousing | No need for rehousing | | Need for rehousing |
| Dunston | 80 | 320 | 400 | 30 | 38 | 68 | 3 |
| Swalwell | 46 | 132 | 178 | 15 | 17 | 32 | — |
| Whickham | 20 | 89 | 109 | 5 | 9 | 14 | — |
| Marley Hill | 18 | 50 | 68 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 1 |
| Total | 164 | 591 | 755 | 54 | 68 | 122 | 4 |

ICATIONS at 31st DECEMBER, 1968

| Type o need for housing | Total | Aged person Type | | Total | Single person Type | | Total | Total |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Need for rehousing | No need for rehousing | | Need for rehousing | No need for rehousing | | |
| — | 3 | 41 | 34 | 75 | 15 | 13 | 28 | 574 |
| — | — | 14 | 11 | 25 | 8 | 7 | 15 | 250 |
| — | — | 15 | 15 | 30 | 5 | 13 | 18 | 171 |
| — | 1 | 15 | 5 | 20 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 103 |
| — | 4 | 85 | 65 | 150 | 32 | 35 | 67 | 1098 |

Appendix

Factories Act, 1961.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1968 for the Urban District of Whickham in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 83 | 42 | 3 | — |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | 14 | 14 | 1 | — |
| Total | 99 | 58 | 4 | — |

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were Found.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Totals | 4 | 4 | — | 1 | — |

Outworkers

There are no outworkers employed in the District.

No contraventions of the Act were noted and no cases of default in sending in lists of outworkers to the Council were reported.

No occasions arose for the service of notices or for prosecution under the Act.

List of Byelaws in force in the District

1. New Streets and Buildings and Alterations to Buildings.
2. Nuisances.
3. Nuisances in Connection with the Removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters.
4. Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the Removal of House Refuse, and the Cleansing of Earth-Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.
5. Slaughterhouses.
6. Houses let in Lodgings or Occupied by Members of More than One Family.
7. Common Lodging-houses.
8. Regulation of Certain Offensive Trades.
9. Management of a Mortuary.
10. Prevention of Danger from Whirligigs and Swings, and from the use of Firearms in Shooting Ranges and Galleries.
11. Decent Conduct of Persons using Sanitary Conveniences.
12. Management of Sanitary Conveniences.
13. Telegraph and Other Wires.
14. Building Byelaws.
15. Building Byelaws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.
16. Cemetery.
17. Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milk Shops.
18. Recreation Grounds.
19. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.
20. Wireless Installation.
21. Fouling of Footways by Dogs.
22. Byelaws regulating Swimming Baths under Control of Local Authority made under Section 223 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John A. Dryden, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. Hall, D.M.A., Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board; Cert. of R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods; Diploma of R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. Johnson, Cert. of the P.H.I.E.B., Diploma of the R.S.H. for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods; Diploma of R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

HOUSING AND WELFARE OFFICER

J. Huxley

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. H. Scott

CLERK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. M. Crowe

TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANT

Mrs. O. Massey (commenced 2nd December, 1968)

RODENT OPERATIVE AND DISINFECTION OFFICER (part-time)

J. Wallace

